

Shrewsbury Public Library

News and Events

March, April & May 2006

Letter from the Director

In this issue of the newsletter I'll provide an update on the proposed library building project. Since the announcement that our community was approved for a state construction grant back in July of 2005, it may appear as if little has been happening on the proposed building project. In actuality, the Board of Trustees, the Public Relations Committee and the Fundraising Steering Committee have been very busy working on the proposed project.

But before we jump to all the activity, let me review the grant award. Shrewsbury has been approved for the \$3,447, 211 Massachusetts Public Library Construction Grant, based on the design concept approved at the May 2005 Town Meeting. Although the grant was approved, we must wait for the actual funding to be released from the state. The legislature and Governor are supporting funding for public library construction, so we expect to receive our grant funds sometime in 2008 or later. It's important to know that this funding is contingent upon voter approval of the local share of the project. This release of state funds has required some patience and waiting, but the work behind the scenes has been active and exciting.

The Fundraising Steering Committee gathered for their first meeting in October 2005, and has been meeting regularly: they have contracted for a feasibility study to assess the potential for the campaign and the project. The committee is chaired by three dynamic members: Rich Denio, Fern Nissim and Debra Mooney. The committee is currently working on initial planning, such as creating the case and mission statement for the campaign, identifying key community members to interview during the feasibility study and

forming a plan for informing the community about the project and the campaign goals. The committee is also working on establishing 501 (c) 3 non-profit status for the library foundation. The bulk of the committee's work in the coming months will take place mainly behind the scenes, with a plan to kick off the campaign in the late spring of this year.

We recently met with our Town Manager Dan Morgado and project architects from Beacon Architectural Associates to review the projected budget, with an eye toward verifying and updating the budget projection to reflect rising construction costs resulting from Hurricane Katrina and other factors. At the same time, we are beginning to look at projected operating costs in the proposed building.

Trustee Chair George Strom and I met with members of the finance subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen to consider the appropriate time to bring the project before the voters, considering the state grant requirements and local conditions. Minimally, a project report will be presented at the May 2006 Annual Town Meeting, and a timeline for bringing the project to a vote will follow that meeting.

So for those of you who have been asking how soon we can start the project, I must temper the excitement and note that we are in the early planning stages. I hope, however, that this update will show that the wheels *are* moving forward, and the dream of a "new Library" is moving forward.

Sincerely,
Ellen M. Dolan
Library Director

Children's Programs

Storytimes

Baby & Me Storytime (Birth – 2 ½)

Space is limited. *Lottery held April 3-13*
Tuesday, April 25, May 2, 9, 16 at 10:15 a.m.

Preschool Storytime (2 ½ - 6)

No registration required---*just drop in.*
Thursdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6 at 10:15 a.m.

Lunch Bunch Storytime (Birth - Kindergarten)

No registration required---*just drop in.* Bring a lunch and a blanket. Listen to some favorite stories.
Appropriate for children through Kindergarten with an accompanying adult.
Wed. March 29 at 11:00 a.m.
Wed. April 12 at 11:00 a.m.
Tues. May 23 at 11:00 a.m.



Special Programs

Wed., March 15 at 11:00 a.m. – Holi Celebration
In India, Holi marks the coming of Spring. Come listen to a story, dress in your white clothes, and do a “colorful” craft to help us “Think Spring.” Space is limited. Registration ends March 10th.

Friday, March 17 at 2:30 p.m. – Leaping Leprechauns
Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on your day off from school by making your own leprechaun, listening to a story, and watching the movie (immediately following the craft), “Darby O’Gill and the Little People.” Space limited for craft portion. Registration for craft ends March 10th. No registration required for movie.

Friday, April 14th at 2:30 p.m. – Movie Day
Come to the library to relax and watch a new release on the “big screen.” (To be announced) No registration is required.

April 15-29– Arbor Day Celebration

- Draw-A-Tree/Get-A-Tree at the Children’s Room
 - Arbor Day Logo Contest for Grades 6-12
- Once again, Jackie Pratt, web administrator for the town, has received grant money to distribute tree seedlings to children. If you draw a picture or write a poem about a tree and bring it to the library, you will receive a seedling and your art work will be displayed in the Children’s Room. Arbor Day is April 28, 2006. Help us to fill the Children’s Room with “beautiful trees.”

April Vacation

Join us this week to get ready for “National TV Turn Off Week (April 23 – 30)”

- 🌈 Friday, April 14 – Come to the Children’s Room to get your two week log book. Return with your log book after May 1st and receive a prize.
- 🌈 Wednesday, April 19 at 10:30 - Make a “busy box” to keep you happy during the TV Turn Off Week. Space is limited. Registration ends April 7th.
- 🌈 Thursday, April 20 at 10:30 –Learn about places to go and things to do around Shrewsbury. Exploring can be fun during TV Turn Off Week. Space is limited. Registration ends April 7th.
- 🌈 Friday, April 21 at 10:30 – Game Day. Play some familiar games and learn a few new ones to try during TV Turn Off Week. Space is limited. Registration ends April 7th.

Tuesday, May 9 at 4:00 – Mother’s Day Tea
For children in Grades K – 4. Surprise your Mom! While Mom relaxes in the library, you can prepare a special surprise for her. Space is limited. Registration ends May 4th.

Summer Reading Adventure

Are you tired of the cold New England winter?-- Think Summer! Join us to see ... “*what’s buzzin’ at the Shrewsbury Public Library.*” Come to the Children’s Room beginning May 15th to receive

CHILDREN'S PAGE CONTINUED.....

your calendar of summer events. There will be reading programs, special performers, crafts, movies, prizes, and more.

You don't want to be left out.

Puzzle of the Month Club

Come once a month to play with your brain!

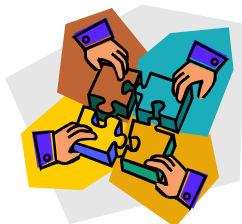
Second Monday of the month, 6 -7 p.m.

Grade 3 and up

March 13: "Can You See It?"

April 10: Amazing Mazes

May 8: "All Tied Up"



You Asked For It.....

Puzzle of the Month Club JUNIOR!

For those younger puzzlers out there:

Kindergartners through Grade 2.

First Monday of the Month, 6 – 7 p.m.

March 6: Jigsaws

April 3: Logic Puzzles

May 1: "Can You See It?" (to be held in the Mezzanine)

Turning Pages Together

A Book Discussion Group for Children in Grade 2 and up, with their adult readers. Come in and ask for your copy of the book of the month.

Fourth Monday of the month, 6 – 7 p.m.

March 27: Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater

April 24: The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

May 22: Charlotte's Web by E. B. White

Rediscover Your Library

A new column on library services, activities and programs that you may not know about...

An important and growing role of today's public library is that of community center. Besides the thousand or more people who visit the library each week for "regular library services," such as checking out books or magazines, many people use the library to keep connected to their community.

Citizens often come in looking for recent reports released by local boards or committees. Many of these items are found in our reference collection. For instance, the recent "2005 Shrewsbury Citizen Survey Final Report," prepared by students of Clark University, can be found in our reference stacks. If you are looking for the Senior Center news, the school newsletter or forms or flyers for town activities, there's a good chance you'll find them here at the Library. You'll find all sorts of information about town issues or events at the library, and our Reference Librarian can help track them down for you.

The library building itself plays a big part in our role as a community center. Numerous community groups and associations use our meeting rooms. Last year alone, over 500 community meetings were held at the library, and that number is growing each year. There's a growing sense that the library is a destination -- a place to spend some time, where children and families get to know others, where people can attend workshops, performances and classes, where teens can connect and unwind after school, where people can connect to the outside world via the internet, where people find the resources that enhance their lives. And of course, students and tutors meet here on a regular basis. Students and business people meet to work and plan together. The list goes on and on, but essentially we have come to be the place where people of all ages, people of varied interest and needs, come to connect to their community. Jubal Howe, who donated the money to build our first public library building in 1903, would be proud!



Adult Programs

Computer Classes at the Library:

Sign up for the computer class that meets your need and skill level.

We have a variety of public computer classes available at no charge. Please call the library at 508-842-0081 x 3 for specific information or to sign up. Pre-registration is highly recommended.



Eclectic Browsers Book Group

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Mezzanine.

Refreshments are provided. New members are always welcome. Books are available at the Circulation Desk one month prior to the discussion.

March 23: The Adams Women by Paul Nagel

April 27: Colony by Anne Rivers Siddons

May 25: I'm a Stranger Here Myself by Bill Bryson

- Also on Thursday, May 18th at 12:30 p.m. at the West Boylston Library we are invited to join their book group to discuss the Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger. Any questions -- please call Cyndi at 508-841-8536.

Science Fiction Book Chats: First Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

March 1: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

April 5: The Fabulous Riverboat by Philip Jose Farmer

May 3: Dark Lord: The Rise of Darth Vader by James Luceno

Second Annual SELCO Arbor Day Celebration

Rain Gardens: Gardening with

Water Conservation & Water

Quality in Mind

Thursday, April 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Learn about rain gardens, how to keep more rainwater on your property, improve local water quality, and create a beautiful natural area that will attract birds and butterflies. Donna Williams, Mass Audubon Conservation Advocacy Coordinator, will teach participants about strategic placement, plant choices, and maintenance. Begin the new growing season as a water resource advocate.



Rain garden-friendly shrubs and trees will be available to program participants at the SELCO Arbor Day Free Tree Giveaway at Dean Park on Saturday, April 29.

Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Water Conservation Project, SELCO Arbor Day 2006 Celebration & Mass Audubon. For further information about Arbor Day activities around town, please go to the town website at www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/arborday

Morning Games at the Library



The Friends of the Library will sponsor a morning of chess, checkers and Chinese checkers. All levels of skill are welcome. Game boards, beverages and snacks will be provided. The time and day of the week will be announced. Call Nancy Colby (508-842-0081 ext.3) at the Shrewsbury Library if you are interested or would like more information.

Income Tax Help:

Saturdays, 9 a.m. -1 p.m. March 4 to April 8

St. Patrick's Day Celebration with folksinger David O'Docherty, Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.
Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 pm

Michael Tougias: Author program

Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 pm

The author will speak about his latest book, Ten Hours Until Dawn: The True Story of Heroism and Tragedy Aboard the Can Do.

Join us as the author tells of writing about this electrifying true tale of a blinding storm, a crew in peril at sea, and the men who risked their lives to save them. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library

Genealogy Classes for Beginners

Tuesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.

Shrewsbury Genealogy Club meetings

Mondays, March 27, April 24, and May 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Holds, Holds, Holds! Did you know that each month we process an average of 1,735 holds for library patrons? We try very hard to keep all those wonderful items coming and going each day. You can help us serve you best by doing the following:

- When picking up a requested hold, please bring in the card of the person who requested the item.
- Please pick up all requested items. (We hold items on the shelf for 8 days.)
- Please provide us with your current e-mail address. Notifying you by email saves us a tremendous amount of work.
- We recommend placing only two or three holds at a time, as the requests are usually sent to us quite quickly. (Best sellers and recent releases may take a bit longer.)
- Request items from the CWMARS Catalog first. Use the Union Catalog only when an item is not available in Central Massachusetts.



Young Adult Stuff

SPLAT

Lots of exciting things are going on! Wanna be a part of it? Join SPLAT— Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team.

Help us plan programs *you* want to attend, pick materials *you* want to see in the library, and

hang out with other teens. In short, this is a group all about what *you* want. To join, fill out an application available at the front desk or at <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library/eventsya.asp> We'll contact you when we have our next meeting!



Make Your Own Sundae AND See a Movie Friday, April 21 at 2 p.m.

Drop in and relax with ice cream and a movie on your last day of vacation!

Movie title TBA.

Get Crafty! Mother's Day Edition

Friday, May 5 at 4 p.m.

Create a glass etched candle votive.

Make Mom a funky gift for Mother's Day. Or keep it for yourself! No registration necessary.



Dungeons & Dragons Role Playing Group

Every Sunday at 1 p.m.

Learn the new d20 role playing game from your peers!

Teen Book Group

Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

March 16: Hoot by Carl Hiassen

April 13: The Kingdom Keepers by Ridley Pearson

May 25 : The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown **

**** *The Da Vinci Code* book discussion is for students in grades 9-12 ONLY****

Pick up copies of these books at the Front Desk one month prior to meeting date.

For more information on YA programs, email Sarah at ssogigia@cwmar.org

*ALL Young Adult Programs are for students in **grades 5-12** unless otherwise noted. To encourage participation in Young Adult programs, these programs are limited to students in grades 5-12. Older or younger children **WILL NOT** be admitted. Thank you for your cooperation.*

Shrewsbury Public Library
609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit # 192
Worcester, MA 01613

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Hours for the Spring Season

Mon-Wed 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Thurs- Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sun 1 – 5 p.m. *

**Last Sunday of the Season is May 21st.*

Contact Information

Phone 508-842-0081

Fax 508-841-8540

TTY 508-841-8530

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

Join the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library

The Friends of the Library invite you to join in and help support our town library. We sponsor an annual scholarship, children and adult programming, a grand annual weekend book sale, a holiday open house and many other events. You can find a membership form on our website at <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/pdf/files/library/friends.pdf> or by visiting the library.

The Friends next meetings will be March 21 and April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Library. Join in helping our wonderful ever growing Library.

**Friends of the Library
ANNUAL BOOK & MEDIA SALE**

Friday May 19th

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday May 20th

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday May 21st

1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.



The Friends are accepting donations of all books and media that are in good condition. Funds will be used to benefit of the Shrewsbury Public Library.